



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COUNTY LIBRARY OFFERS INTERNET SAFETY PROGRAMS TO HELP CONCERNED PARENTS

The recent incident involving the disappearance of a 14-year-old Escondido girl who was lured by a man she met on the Internet has raised concern among parents who are wondering how to keep their children safe from dangers posed by surfing the web.

The San Diego County Library would like to let parents and the public know that it has five upcoming programs that provide information on this subject.

"While these programs were scheduled before this unfortunate incident occurred, we want to remind parents that the County library is a potentially powerful and instructive resource on this and a myriad of other subjects," said Library Director José Aponte.

The programs are free. They are:

6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, Descanso Branch Library. A crime prevention specialist from the Sheriff's Department will talk to parents about teens and MySpace.com.

3:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, Descanso Branch Library. The same program will be held for teens.

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, Crest Branch Library. "The Dark Side of the Internet – What You Can Do to Protect Your Child."

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, Spring Valley Branch Library. "Child Safety on the Information Highway"

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, Spring Valley Branch Library. The same program in Spanish.

For addresses of the various branches, please visit the Library Web site at www.sdcl.org or consult the government pages of the phone directory under San Diego – County of – Libraries.

For more information, call (858) 694-2484.

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